



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lawrence E. CORNETT et al.

Title: RECOMBINANT BETA2-ADRENERGIC RECEPTOR DELIVERY AND USE IN TREATING AIRWAY AND VASCULAR DISEASES

Appl. No.: 09/783,580

Filing Date: 02/15/2001

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 1614

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 5, delete the full paragraph which starts on line 1 and ends on page 6, line4, and replace this paragraph with the following in accordance with 37 CFR §1.21. A marked up version showing changes is attached:

β_2 -agonists and glucocorticoids are the two most effective treatments available for asthma therapy and frequently are used in combination. Glucocorticoids are used principally because of their anti-inflammatory properties,⁷ although additional beneficial effects of glucocorticoids in the asthmatic lung have been observed.¹³⁵ Synthetic glucocorticoids are efficacious for treating asthma and other diseases with associated inflammatory processes because they mimic glucocorticoids produced endogenously by the adrenal cortex. The cellular and molecular mechanisms of action of the glucocorticoids have been extensively studied.^{135, 154} The current model of glucocorticoid action postulates intracellular glucocorticoid receptors, which in the absence of ligand, are complexed with heat shock proteins (hsp90, hsp56, hsp70 and an acidic 23 kD protein) (See Figure 3). Glucocorticoids are found in the blood bound to transcartin, albumin, and other serum proteins.

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